

Sermon Notes – “No More Business As Usual”
(January 16, 2022)

Sermon Texts: Psalm 69:6-13; John 2:13-17

Memory Verse: “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.” **Luke 3:22**

“Zeal for your house consumes me, and the insults of those who
insult you fall on me.” **Psalm 69:9**

I. Introduction (John 2:13-17)

- Jesus performs **shocking** act, lifting his hand against Temple merchants. (vs. 15)
- The veil of Jesus’ humanity is pulled back – we observe his **righteous anger**.
- Gospel writer John puts this event right at **beginning** of Jesus’ ministry. **Why?**

II. Prophetic Action

- With this act, Jesus takes his place in the long line of Jewish prophets.
- Jewish Prophets **called to account** kings and priests, when they disobeyed God.
- Jesus’ act reminds us of Jeremiah’s prophetic method. (e.g., Jeremiah 27)

III. Change Is Coming

- John’s placement at beginning of Gospel sends a message: **Change is coming!**
- Message: Jewish complacency towards God is **no longer acceptable**. (vs. 17)
- *No more “**business as usual!**” ... No more “**playing Temple/Church!**”*
- The time has come for worshiping God in **Spirit & Truth**. (John 4:28)

IV. The Purpose of Righteous Anger

- This is the **only place** in the Gospels where we see **Jesus’s anger** on display.
- **Jesus’ beef:** Jewish people/leaders were **only paying lip service** to God.
- Jewish practice had become obsessed with **keeping traditions**, not living in love.
- As in Jeremiah’s day, the Jews looked to **Temple ritual** to negate **bad behavior**.

V. Conclusion: The Call to Return to the Ancient Covenant

- Jesus, like Jeremiah, called people to **embrace** the ancient covenant of love.
- The Sinai Covenant – the 10 commandments, are really about love.
- **Love God** with your whole life. (Deuteronomy 6:5, Matthew 22:37)
- **Love your neighbor** with your whole life. (Leviticus 19:18, Matthew 22:39)
- Jeremiah 7:3-11 ... **No more going through the motions**.

Faith Challenge: *Where in your life are your actions not syncing up with the promises you’ve made in worship?*